

Application no. 10/781,201
Preliminary Amendment dated July 19, 2005

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of making [[a]] an animal chew toy comprising the steps of:

treating a hide; said treating further including the steps of defatting, depilating, splitting, rinsing and sun-drying;

expanding the hide;

piece cutting and moisturizing the hide;

preparing an inner filling;

extruding the inner filling;

combining the hide and the inner filling;

shaping the combined hide and inner filling;

drying the pressed and combined hide and inner filling.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of overcoating the dried, pressed and combined hide and inner filling.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 2 wherein the step of overcoating is smoking.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of claim 3 wherein the step of overcoating is dipping and drying.

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Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 3 wherein the step of overcoating is a savory smoked bacon flavor coating comprising:

beef, 49-51% by weight powdered dehydrated;
natural molasses, 17-19% by weight powdered dehydrated;
liquid smoke, 11-13% by weight powdered dehydrated;
soy protein, 6-8% by weight powdered dehydrated;
wheat gluten, 5-6% by weight powdered dehydrated;
propylene glycol, 5-6% by weight powdered dehydrated;
beef marrow, less than 1% by weight powdered dehydrated;
and brewers yeast, less than 1% by weight powdered dehydrated.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the inner filling is comprised of:

beef, 28-30% by weight;
wheat flour, 15-17% by weight; and
soy flour, 13-15% by weight.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the inner filling is comprised of:

wheat gluten, 28-30% by weight;
glycerine, 12-14% by weight;
rice flour, 12-14% by weight;
sweet rice flour, 11-13% by weight; and
chicken meal, 8-10% by weight[[]]
~~fennel seed powder, less than 1% by weight,~~
~~dill seed powder, less than 1% by weight,~~
~~sodium tripolyphosphate, less than 1% by weight,~~
~~chlorophyll, less than 1% by weight,~~
~~peppermint oil, less than 1% by weight, and~~
~~parsley herb oil, less than 1% by weight.~~

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Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the inner filling is comprised of:

wheat gluten, 44-46% by weight;
~~glycerine glycerin~~, 22-24% by weight;
~~powdered at least one dehydrated vegetables vegetable~~,
approximately 19-21% by weight; and
~~deionized water~~, 4-6% by weight[[:]];
~~gelatin~~, 3-5% by weight;
~~lecithin~~, less than 1% by weight;
~~sodium diacetate~~, less than 1% by weight;
~~fennel seed powder~~, less than 1% by weight;
~~dill seed powder~~, less than 1% by weight; and
~~sodium tripolyphosphate~~, less than 1% by weight.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 8 wherein the at least one powdered dehydrated vegetables vegetable is comprise one or more vegetables selected from a group consisting of: carrots, potatoes, celery, beets, parsley, watercress, and spinach;

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of shaping, includes pressing.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of shaping, includes twisting.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of shaping, includes knotting.

Claim 13 (new): The method of claim 9 wherein the at least one vegetable is powdered.

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Claim 14 (new): An animal chew toy comprising:
an outer casing comprising rawhide and
an inner filling comprising wheat gluten, glycerin,
and a portion of at least one powdered vegetable
selected from a group consisting of carrot,
potato, celery, beet, parsley, watercress, and
spinach.

Claim 15 (new): The animal chew toy of claim 14 wherein the
rawhide comprises pork hide.

Claim 16 (new): The animal chew toy of claim 14 wherein the
rawhide comprises cowhide.

Claim 17 (new): A animal chew toy comprising:
an outer casing comprising rawhide and
an inner filling comprising gluten, glycerin, rice
flour and chicken meal.

Claim 18 (new): The animal chew toy of claim 17 wherein the
rawhide comprises pork hide.

Claim 19 (new): The animal chew toy of claim 17 wherein the
rawhide comprises cowhide.